



TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Executive Director's Report

JUNE 2014

CONTENTS

PAGE 1

TJJD Shines at HUB Fair

PAGE 2

PBIS Rollout Continues
Cameron County Youth Tours Evins

PAGE 3

Giddings Youth Walk for Charity

PAGE 4

New Tradition Begins at Gainesville
Brownwood House Youth Attends High School
Graduation
Evins Combats Gang Violence

PAGE 5

Employees Receiving Tenure Awards

TJJD Shines At HUB Fair

On May 12 and 13, TJJD's Procurement and Contracts Department attended the "Doing Business Texas Style" Spot Bid Fair in Irving, Texas. The event was sponsored by various state agencies to provide businesses opportunities and outreach to Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) in Texas. It is unique in that it is the only event of its kind where a business can submit bids during the event and agencies can award purchase orders on the "spot" at the event. Agencies begin posting bidding opportunities on a website sponsored by Texas Parks and Wildlife several weeks in advance of the event. Vendors could go to the website to find opportunities for which they would like to submit bids. Over 70 state agencies and higher education groups posted bidding opportunities for vendors to choose.

To kick off this year's event, Senator West recognized the top 10 performing agencies from last year's event. TJJD received recognition for awarding the third highest total dollars of \$140,000.00 to HUB vendors. Accepting the Certificate of Appreciation from Senator West on behalf of the agency was Kenneth Ming, Director of Business Operations and Contracts. Additional staff should be recognized for their contribution at this year's event: Art Hinojosa, Donna Miller, Sheree Case, Jackie Schmaltz, Elizabeth Alamo, and Erica Tristan. These individuals took time away from families to make this year's event a success. The rest of the purchasing staff also contributed to TJJD's outstanding performance in providing opportunities to minority businesses. ■



PBIS Rollout Continues

Ron Jackson continues to move forward with the implementation of facility-wide PBIS. Success dorm was selected as the first pilot dorm, and the staff on Success are now utilizing Universal Tier supports. Universal Tier supports include the use of clear, consistent expectations, teaching and modeling expected behaviors, and acknowledging and rewarding desired behaviors.

The PBIS Coordinator and Texas State PBIS consultant will continue to collaborate with the staff at Ron Jackson throughout the pilot process in order to ensure fidelity and sustainability. Once PBIS has demonstrated positive outcomes on Success and the model is established with sufficient fidelity, implementation will begin on the next pilot dorm. ■

Cameron County Youth Tour Evins

Several juveniles from the nearby Cameron County Probation department were on campus in June to take a tour and “wake up” call to the reality of being committed at the Evins Regional Juvenile Center.

Evins community relations coordinator and tour guide Fidel Garcia spoke with the visiting youth about choices in their lives, explaining risk factors and protective factors and engaging youth in a discussion of choices. “Look around your community and find an interest that you enjoy and choose

the right positive thing to do. This is what we call Protective Factors—activities that will reinforce good choices and promote good pro-social behavior and habits,” Mr. Garcia said.

The youth were then led to Dorm 1 where several Evins youth took turns greeting and talking to the group. One TJJD youth told the group, “you need to stay away from here. This is not a good place for you to be in. While I have been here I have not been able to see my baby son and family and missed out on my uncle’s funeral.”

Another TJJD youth told the group, “this is my second tour here and it is not fun. The first time I went home and thought everything was going to be easy and guess what? I went right back to the same old friends and habits and eventually right back here.”

When asked by Cameron County Probation Officer and Field Supervisor Richard Solis what he would do differently, the youth answered, “for sure choose my friends wisely and listen. Listen to your family, because what you will miss the most while you are in here will be your family – the same folks that got in your face and kept telling you to do the right thing, for staying up late, hanging around with the wrong crowd and skipping school.”

The tour ended with a question-and-answer session before the county youth departed. The following day, Mr. Solis wrote that “the kids really enjoyed the tour and said that they never want to end up there. Now they understand the consequences if they continue to break the law and where they might end up. This is the last chance for some of these kids.” ■





Giddings Youth Walk for Charity

Giddings State School's Student Council sponsored its 4th Annual Walk-A-Thon on Friday, June 13th. 53 youth walked to benefit two local agencies of Giddings – the Lee County Youth Center and the Lee County Senior Citizens. Youth took pledges from employees of the facility for a month. The employees pledged to donate a maximum amount and some pledged to pay students for each lap done. This year's total pledge is approximately \$2600.

Certificates and other special recognition will be awarded to the youth who raised the most money – M.M. (\$353.00 in donations) and Q.B. (\$102.00 in donations).

Special Recognition was awarded to youth who made the most laps. The youth were very proud of why they were walking and for their community service.

After the youth walked for two hours, they assembled in the chapel for a lunch of sausage wrap-a-rounds, chips, cookies and sodas. Mr. Aldridge, Mr. Scott and Mr. Winn grilled the sausages for the youth. They also grilled ribs, pork chops and roasted corn on the pit for the staff who volunteered. The youth ate, listened to music and cooled off before they were dismissed to their dorms.

Testimonials from youth:

"Doing the walkathon this year was my second time. I enjoyed doing the walkathon. I felt that it was a good thing to do to help raise money for those who are in need. I looked at it as a way to get me more experience in fundraising and to help the senior citizens." – T.L.

"I feel the walkathon was for a good cause and I enjoyed doing it. I hope that one day someone will do something like that for me. I feel it was important." – C.M.

"During the walk-a-thon I was feeling real happy for helping the community. I have never done something like this and will love to do it again." – A.L. ■





New Tradition Begins At Gainesville

Gainesville State School student athletes who win post-season accolades are now honored with a new tradition. Superintendent Paul Bartush and Coach Walt Scott awarded the first ever letterman jackets. Four athletes earned the impressive black and white leather coats.

Honorees included:

- **Jermarcus** – won 2nd team All District Linebacker in football, 1st Team All District in basketball, and defensive Most Valuable Player;
- **Mauro** – won 2nd Team All District on Offense AND Defense in football;
- **Francis** – won 2nd Team All District in basketball; and
- **Xavior** – won Honorable Mention ALL District Basketball.

In celebration of his student athletes' accomplishments, Coach Scott was awarded a jacket as well. Manager of Facility Programs and Services, Teresa Berry, better known as the football mom, was also surprised with a jacket. ■

Brownwood House Youth Attends High School Graduation

One of the young women from the Brownwood House for females attended the accelerated high school campus in Brownwood ISD this past school year. The Brownwood House opened in October 2013 and youth JR has been attending the high school. Although only 16, she has been working very hard to graduate before she is released on parole. She was originally told she wouldn't be able to walk across the stage on graduation night with her peers because all her test scores wouldn't be back in time. However, staff with the Brownwood ISD worked diligently to receive her scores the night before the ceremony, ensuring that she passed and would be able to participate in graduation. This is Brownwood House's first youth to walk in the actual High School Graduation thanks to the hard work by the student, the TJJD staff and BISD staff supporting her. ■

Evins Combats Gang Violence

On Saturday, June 21, the Evins Regional Juvenile Center held its Gang Peace Treaty Incentive Day. Youths arrived at the event to the smell of BBQ on the grill while they enjoyed the swimming pool, the dunking booth and water slide. Several youth enjoyed a three-point shooting competition in the gym as well. Evins staff did a remarkable job of monitoring all youth events and providing barbeque for youth and staff. As the day ended, many youth were asking when the next Gang Peace Treaty Incentive Day will be held. Congratulations to the Evins staff for hosting this successful event. ■

Employees Receiving Tenure Awards

TJJD would like to recognize the following employees who have received a tenure award since May 2014. On behalf of the agency, we extend our sincerest gratitude and appreciation for their dedication and service to the State of Texas.

June 2014

FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

NAME	LOCATION/CENTRAL OFFICE DIVISION
David M. Sanchez	<i>York House</i>
Marcus O. Shed	<i>McFadden Ranch</i>
Theresa G. DeShay	<i>Giddings State School</i>
Wendy C. Monroe	<i>McLennan Cty</i>
Tom N. Hamilton	<i>OIG Field</i>

TEN YEARS OF SERVICE

Carter L. Wyatt	<i>Austin Office (Education)</i>
Holli K. Fenton	<i>Ron Jackson State Juvenile Corr. Facility</i>
James H. Alexander	<i>McLennan Cty</i>
Jason T. Phillips	<i>Gainesville State School</i>
L'Sandra L. Tutson	<i>Houston District Office</i>
M. A. MacLeod	<i>Austin Office (Information Technology)</i>
Willie A. Baldwin	<i>McLennan Cty</i>

FIFTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE

Debbie G. Spencer	<i>Ron Jackson State Juvenile Corr. Facility</i>
Deborah L. Lively	<i>McLennan Cty</i>
Durand B. Sculthorp	<i>McLennan Cty</i>
Ingeborg M. Brooker	<i>Ayres House</i>
Michael G. Rutherford	<i>Austin Office (Information Technology)</i>
Willis L. Ratcliff	<i>McLennan Cty</i>

TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE

Bobbie Raven	<i>Willoughby House</i>
Francine Hobbs	<i>McLennan Cty</i>
Henry L. Turner, Jr.	<i>Giddings State School</i>
Melinda L. Richardson	<i>Ron Jackson State Juvenile Corr. Facility</i>
Sammy D. McCoslin	<i>McLennan Cty</i>
Tahseen S. Rizki	<i>Houston District Office</i>
Valorie K. Manuel	<i>Gainesville State School</i>

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

Diane M. Nunn	<i>McLennan Cty</i>
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THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE

Mary M. Henry	<i>Giddings State School</i>
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